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NEWS RELEASE



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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

STUDENT CHAIRMAN TO ATTEND CONFERENCE ON VOLUNTARY ACTION

SAN DIEGO, Calif.--A University of San Diego student will participate in the Western Regional meeting of national student volunteers to be held at Stanford University Jan. 8-10.

Robert L. Nagle, 19, a sophomore from Newport, R.I., will lead a delegation of student volunteers to the regional meeting, which is sponsored by the National Program for Voluntary Action created by George Romney, Secretary for Housing and Urban Development, with the support of President Nixon.

Nagle is chairman of the University of San Diego Community Development Program, a student-run program of assistance in San Diego, and which works on projects in Mexico. An economics major, he is an honor student.

Nagle is a graduate of Rogers High School in Newport and is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Nagle of 547 Spring St., Newport.

The program that Nagle heads conducts a Big Brother and Big Sister Program as well as tutoring in San Diego. In Mexico, the project in Colonia de San Martin serves 150 people every Saturday at the medical clinic which was constructed and 100 children are taught English at various locations in the Colonia, he said.

The USD student program coordinates the assistance of MANO, a Mexican-American organization in San Diego, and student participants from the University of California at Santa Barbara.

(MORE)

"We have about 25 students going to Mexico every weekend to work on the project, about half of them are from the University of San Diego," Nagle said describing the activities of the program.

"I started in the program about a year ago when I was asked if I would volunteer and this year I am chairman of the overall program."

As to his participation in the conference on voluntary action, Nagle said he will speak on the conditions of the Southern border of San Diego and the relationships of the Mexican-American in San Diego.

"About one-half of the volunteers in the Community Development Program are Mexican-Americans," he noted.

"What is most startling to me about the people of Mexico," Nagle said, "is that they live in a people-oriented society. There, even though a man is poor, he has dignity and pride in himself. By way of contrast, our own society is a money-oriented one," he said.

"The area we are now working in has a population of 200,000, there are 10,000 on the colonia alone," he noted. Next year, the program will seek to develop more medical and educational facilities, he said. The Community Development Program will also coordinate the efforts of social and educational institutions to see how much more can be done," he said. The students restrict their activities to non-political involvement, he added.

"It is important the U.S. students go to Mexico," Nagle said as a final evaluation of the program, "it shows that we care."

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